

REMARKS

Claims 1-42 and 45-60 are currently pending in the application, with claims 1, 17, 18, 26, 42, 45 and 53 being independent. Claims 1-24 and 26-41 have been amended to address informalities and improve their presentation, with claims 4, 6-13, 16, 21-24, 29, 31-39 and 41 amended to address improper multiple dependent claims. Claim 26 has been amended to better define the claimed invention. New claims 45-60 have been added to define additional aspects of the invention. Claims 43-44 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein

Amendments to the Specification

In the Office Action, the Examiner asserted that the Title of Record is not descriptive and required that a new title of the invention be provided. Accordingly, Applicants have amended the title to read "CENTRALIZED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT BASED UPON POSITION INFORMATION."

The Examiner objected to the Abstract of the Disclosure because the Abstract was not written in a single paragraph. Applicants have enclosed a new Abstract herewith, and respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the objection to the Abstract.

The Examiner objected to the specification because the paragraph on page 7, lines 15-22, contained the phrase "according to the claims...". Applicants have addressed this objection by deleting this paragraph from the specification. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the objection to the specification.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 4-16, 21-25, and 29-41 under 37 CFR §1.75(c) as being in improper multiple dependent form. Applicants have amended claims 3-4, 6-13, 16, 20-24, 28-29, 31-39, and 41 to remove multiple claim dependencies. Applicants accordingly request that the Examiner remove the objections to claims 4-16, 21-25, and 29-41.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC §112

The Examiner rejected claims 43 and 44 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Applicants have cancelled claims 43 and 44, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein, thus rendering these rejections moot.

Claims Rejections Under 35 USC §102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 17-20, 26-28 and 42-44 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by USP 6,345,304 B1 to Dymetman et al. ("Dymetman").

Dymetman discloses an embodiment which may relate to techniques for obtaining network addresses from identifiers. The identifier, which could be a page identifier, may indicate a value that identifies an action that can be produced through a network. (See column 2, lines 9-16.) Dymetman further discloses components of a document printed on a coded substrate. Printed document 102 may comprise layer 104 including human readable information which may be printed on a coded substrate 106. Coded substrate 106 may further comprise a layer 108 of visible or invisible machine readable markings printed on a sheet medium 110. (Column 5, line 66 through Column 6, line 8; Figure 1.) Dymetman further discloses that the machine-readable markings may be divided into a plurality of cells.

A cell may include two sets of markings. A first set of markings 208 over part of the interior of cell 202 may be an encoded representation of a page identifier (PID), while a second set of markings 210 over a smaller part of the interior of cell 202 may be an encoded representation of the localization which may uniquely define the position of cell 202 within the page identified by the PID. (Column 6, lines 8-19; Figure 2.)

In Figure 7, Dymetman illustrates a table that can be stored in memory a central router. Table 704 may store group data 706 indicating groups of consecutive PIDs and network address data 708, with the two types of data being related in table entries, such that Table 704 can be accessed using a PID in any of the groups to obtain a particular group's associated network address (Column 7, lines 57-61).

Conversely, Dymetman fails to disclose, at least, "user units... arranged to record information which comprises at least one position on the imaginary surface," as recited in claims 1 and 17, and, at least, a "user unit [that] records the information in such a way that comprises at least one position on at least one imaginary surface," as recited in claim 26, and, at least, "receipt of information which contains at least one position on an imaginary surface," as recited in claims 18 and 42.

Moreover, in the central router table 704, Dymetman may store groups of PID's (col. 7, lines 46-51), each of which may be associated with separate discrete groups of positions that may uniquely identify position within the page (col. 6, lines 12-18; Fig. 2). The central router table 704 is not an imaginary surface which may be interpreted as a continuous surface of absolute positions. This continuous surface may represent a physical area which is larger than any single practicable usable surface.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections of claims 1, 17, 18, 26, and 42. Claims 2-16 depend from allowable claim 1, and are allowable by virtue of their dependency. New claims 47-49 depend from allowable claim 17 and are also allowable by virtue of their dependency. Claims 19-25 depend from allowable claim 18 and thus are allowable by virtue of their dependency. Claims 27-41 depend from allowable claim 26 and are allowable by virtue of their dependency. Applicants therefore respectfully request the withdrawal of the §102(e) rejection to these claims and timely allowance of this application.

Interview Request:

Applicant hereby requests officially a personal interview with the Examiner to further discuss the rejections of record. Please contact Applicant's representative, Michael K. Mutter (Registration No. 40,953), at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to schedule the interview prior to an issuance of another action of this case.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit herewith a Request for Interview. Prior to the Examiner's formal consideration of this Reply, Applicants respectively request the Examiner to contact the undersigned to conduct and interview.

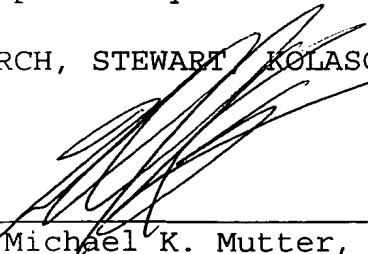
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicants respectfully petition for a two (2) month extension of time for filing a response in connection with the present application. The required fee of \$420.00 is attached hereto.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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Attachment(s): Replacement Abstract